

CLAIMS:

1. A food product comprising a gelled water-based shell and a liquid centre characterised in that the water-based shell contains a mixture of kappa carrageenan and
5 iota carrageenan in an amount sufficient to provide a gel texture, the relative proportions of kappa carrageenan and iota carrageenan being 50 to 95% by weight kappa carrageenan and 5 to 50% by weight iota carrageenan based on the sum of the weights of kappa and iota carrageenan.
- 10 2. A food product as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shell contains, on a dry substance basis, 1.5% to 5% by weight of the mixture of kappa and iota carrageenans.
3. A food product as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shell contains, on a dry substance basis, 1.7% to 4% by weight of the mixture of kappa and iota carrageenans.
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4. A food product as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shell contains, on a dry substance basis, 2% to 2.5% by weight of the mixture of kappa and iota carrageenans.
5. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the mixture of kappa
20 and iota carrageenans contains 60 to 95% kappa and 5 to 40% iota based on the total weight of kappa and iota.
6. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the mixture of kappa and iota carrageenans contains 65 to 90% kappa and 10 to 35% iota based on the total
25 weight of kappa and iota.
7. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the mixture of kappa and iota carrageenans contains 70 to 85% kappa and 15 to 30% iota based on the total weight of kappa and iota.
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8. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7 wherein the shell is formed of a composition comprising in addition to the blend of kappa and iota carrageenan, water and one or more sweeteners.

9. A food product as claimed in claim 8 wherein the sweetener is a sugar, a sugar syrup, corn syrup or a sugar substitute or an artificial sweetener.
- 5 10. A food product as claimed in claim 8 or 9 wherein the sweetener is present in an amount of 45 to 88% of the shell.
11. A food product as claimed in claim 8 or 9 wherein the sweetener is present in an amount of 72 to 83% of the shell.
- 10 12. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11 wherein the composition forming the shell also contains acid, acidity regulator and/or colourant.
13. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 wherein the solids content of
15 the shell is 50 to 90% by weight.
14. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 wherein the solids content of the shell is 60 to 85% by weight.
- 20 15. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 wherein the solids content of the shell is 75 to 85% by weight.
16. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 15 wherein a 3.5mm thick slice of the shell has an optical density of 0.2 or less.
- 25 17. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 15 wherein a 3.5mm thick slice of the shell has an optical density of 0.1 or less.
18. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 17 wherein the liquid centre is a
30 fat based composition.
19. A food product as claimed in claim 18 wherein the liquid centre is a flavoured oil or chocolate.

20. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 19 wherein the liquid centre contains water and sweetener.
- 5 21. A food product as claimed in claim 20 wherein the sweetener is a sugar, a sugar syrup, corn syrup or a sugar substitute or an artificial sweetener.
22. A food product as claimed in claim 21 wherein the liquid centre contains colour, flavour, acid and/or one or more functional ingredients.
- 10 23. A food product as claimed in claim 22 wherein the liquid centre contains at least one of minerals, vitamins and herbs.
24. A food product as claimed in any of claims 20 to 23 wherein the water content
15 of the liquid centre is from 10 to 30% by weight and the sweetener content is from 70 to 90% by weight.
25. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 24 wherein the viscosity of the liquid centre is in the range from 0.01 to 10,000 Pa s.
- 20 26. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 25 wherein the shell has a thickness of 1mm to 10mm.
27. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 25 wherein the shell has a
25 thickness of 2mm to 7.5mm.
28. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 25 wherein the shell has a thickness of 2.5 to 5mm.
- 30 29. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 28 wherein the liquid filling comprises 5 to 90% of the product.

30. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 28 wherein the liquid filling comprises 7 to 30% of the product.
31. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 28 wherein the liquid filling
5 comprises 10 to 25% of the product.
32. A food product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 31 which is gelatin free.
33. A process for the manufacture of a food product as claimed in any of claims 1
10 to 32, which comprises introducing the water-based shell composition in liquid form and the liquid centre into a mould so that the shell surrounds the centre and gelling the shell.
34. A process as claimed in claim 33 wherein the components are introduced into
15 starch moulds.
35. A process as claimed in claim 33 or 34 wherein the water-based shell composition in liquid form and the liquid centre are introduced into a mould using an apparatus which provides a co-axial deposit, initially depositing shell, then introducing
20 a flow of filling co-axially with the shell material and finishing with just shell.